

Way Above and Beyond

On 7-30-05 at approximately 1:30 PM I had the misfortune of having a tire blow out on I - 95 in Brevard County just north of the Fellsmere exit. My dilemma was that I had my wife and kids, ages 9 and 11, with me. We were on our way home from a vacation in Key West. Luckily, I was able to stop the car without incident. I sent my family off the side of the road to a safer place. As I started to change the tire I realized that I did not have the equipment needed to change the tire having misplaced the key to the locking lug nut.

There I was on the side of I - 95 with my family, stuck and unable to change the tire. I called AAA and was told that due to delays in the area it would be up to 2 hours before they could send someone to help. Then FHP Trooper Daniel Davis, of Troop D out of Cocoa, pulled up behind us. I identified myself as an off duty Firefighter - Paramedic for the City of Palm Bay FL. His first concern was for our safety and comfort. He then started helping me try several ways to loosen the lug nut. After several unsuccessful tries he put in a call to the Road Rangers to try to get help to us faster. They were unable to respond. Trooper Davis was very concerned that my whole family was on the side of the road. Bad weather was headed our way.

Using the Trooper's own personal equipment from his trunk we continued to work on the lug nut. We finally were able to remove the lug nut and I was able to change the tire. Trooper Davis then helped repack the back of our SUV and even provided wet wipes for me to clean my hands.

When we pulled back out on the road he pulled out behind us. Within a mile there was another disabled car on the roadside. We looked back and Trooper Davis was pulling in behind them!

Trooper Daniel Davis went way beyond the call of duty that afternoon. The citizens of Florida should be proud that a man of his caliber and caring is out there keeping all of us safe. He is truly an asset to the FHP. My family and I thank him for his concern and his help.

Sincerely,

Buz, Susan, Sky and Savannah Mardiat

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]